

# business recycling solutions



Recycling – Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

## Towards Sustainability Clean *and* Green

“Green” or “environmentally preferable” cleaning products are those that have a reduced impact on human health and the environment. By switching from traditional cleaning products to biodegradable and non-toxic/less toxic products, your company can drastically reduce the environmental and human impact of cleaning activities without sacrificing cleaning effectiveness.

On average, Americans spend about 90 percent of their days indoors. EPA studies indicate that human exposure to air pollutants indoors can be 2-5 times, and occasionally up to 100 times, higher than outdoor levels.\* Cleaning products can definitely impact indoor air quality. Poor indoor air quality can produce health effects such as headaches, dizziness, and fatigue.

We all want to work in an office environment that is comfortable, clean and safe. By asking your janitorial service and staff to switch to green cleaning products, you can help to ensure that that’s just the type of environment that you get.

For additional information on green cleaning products, visit:

[www.newdream.org/procure/products/clean.php](http://www.newdream.org/procure/products/clean.php): Offers green cleaning product lists, tips on getting started and more.

[www.greenseal.org/certproducts.htm](http://www.greenseal.org/certproducts.htm): Provides a list of its certified environmentally-preferable cleaning products.

[www.ofee.gov/gp/greenjanitorial.html](http://www.ofee.gov/gp/greenjanitorial.html): Offers contract language and general resources for green cleaning.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### America Recycles Day November 15

[www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org)  
Enter to win a Ford Escape Hybrid!

**Small Business Resource Fair**  
**November 16, 7:30 –11 a.m.**  
Sunnyvale Community Center  
No cost; Contact: (408) 730-7607

**Business Hazardous Waste  
Drop-off Events**  
**November 18 • January 20**  
[www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org)  
Call (408) 299-7300 for details

\* Source: Environmental Protection Agency,  
<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/insidest.html>

## Local Focus EORM is Certified “Green”

**Environmental and Occupational Risk Management (EORM)**, which develops and implements Environmental, Health and Safety management programs, is the second business in Sunnyvale to be certified by the **Santa Clara County Green Business Program** (<http://greenbiz.sccgov.org>). The Green Business Program recognizes businesses that are in compliance with all environmental regulations and meet program standards for water and energy conservation, pollution prevention and waste minimization. Green Business staff will work with you *at no cost* to certify your business.

EORM’s environmental actions include:  
Using Energy Star equipment

Using T-8 ballasts throughout their office building

Using 1.6 gallon low-flush toilets

Recycling office paper, cardboard, beverage containers and toner cartridges

Incorporating waste reduction and recycled-content paper guidelines in their purchasing policy, including purchasing 30% post-consumer recycled content office paper and letterhead

Implementing a junk mail reduction system

Recycling and reusing items containing hazardous components, such as cell phones and e-waste

Your business can join the Green Business Program by contacting Gretchen Hayes, Santa Clara County Green Business Specialist, at (408) 441-4329.

“Santa Clara County’s free Green Business Certification Program encourages companies across the valley to use environmentally sound business practices that in turn improve both our environment and the local economy,” commented **Glenn Fishler, president and CEO of EORM, Inc.** “Since EORM is an environmental, health and safety management consultancy with a large customer base in Santa Clara County, we wholeheartedly embrace the benefits of this program and are encouraging our clients to also ‘go Green.’”



# Recycle It!

## Answers to Your Recycling Questions

Do you want to recycle your office paper? What about cans and bottles? Or, fluorescent tubes? To find out how to recycle or properly dispose of over 50 waste materials, please visit Sunnyvale's **Recycling Resources** list at [www.sunnyvalerecycles.org](http://www.sunnyvalerecycles.org).

If you're still not finding what you need, contact the Commercial Recycling Program at (408) 730-7484 for assistance.

**Recycling Contacts**  
**Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling**  
Cardboard Recycling Service  
(408) 566-1804  
**City of Sunnyvale**  
Commercial Recycling Program  
[www.sunnyvalerecycles.org](http://www.sunnyvalerecycles.org)  
(408) 730-7484  
[jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us)

**“Waste is the result of inefficiencies.  
It occurs when we lack imagination.”**

— David Morris, vice president of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
([www.ilsr.org](http://www.ilsr.org))

# Refuse Report

## Put a Lid On It

Make sure to keep bin lids closed throughout the year, particularly during the rainy season. Rainwater that accumulates in dumpsters adds to commercial disposal costs by increasing the weight of refuse. Required by the Sunnyvale Municipal Code, keeping lids closed helps control refuse rates, reduces litter, odor, and disease vectors, and keeps our community looking its best.

**Refuse Contacts**  
**City of Sunnyvale Utilities**  
Garbage service changes, billing, bin cleaning, graffiti removal  
(408) 730-7681

**Q I've heard of an organization called RAFT but I'm not sure how they relate to my business, can you explain?**

**A** The Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT) is a non-profit that believes hands-on teaching is the best way for our kids to learn. RAFT also knows that teachers spend between \$500 and \$1500 a year out of their own pockets to supply materials for hands-on learning. To help teachers, RAFT relies on company donations of surplus office supplies, outdated promotional items and manufacturing by-products that are then made available to local teachers and non-profits. Through their membership, teachers are able to get low-cost tools, material and educational activity kits that help them fulfill the California

# Your Inquiries

State standards in science, math, technology, and art.

By donating to RAFT, your business can help a great cause AND reduce your waste. For the last four years, the City of Sunnyvale Recycling Program



has subsidized over 200 RAFT annual memberships for teachers at schools in Sunnyvale. So, you can be sure that local teachers are benefiting from your donations. Your donation is tax-deductible and RAFT will come to your business to pick up your donation.

Please review the enclosed “Your Business Can Make a Difference” brochure and visit [www.raft.net](http://www.raft.net) for more information. Contact RAFT at (408) 451-1420 or [raft@raft.net](mailto:raft@raft.net) to start participating.

**Send your questions to**  
[jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

**Business Recycling Solutions**  
is available online at  
[www.sunnyvalerecycles.org](http://www.sunnyvalerecycles.org)

Printed on 100% Recycled Content Paper, 50% Post Consumer Waste, with Soy-based Ink.

Business Link to RAFT

Online Recycling Resources

Clean and Green

EORM is Certified “Green”

Inside

Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

P.O. Box 3707

City of Sunnyvale Recycling Program



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